

School's future, parking discussed at ASCSM



SARA POST / OREDIGGER

Provost Steve Castillo discusses his vision for the future of Mines. Castillo also fielded student questions. This was part of ASCSM's effort to bring guest speakers to all of the ASCSM meetings this year. Associate Provost Wendy Harrison and campus architect Chris Cocallas have also made an appearance.

Ian Littman Asst. Business Manager, Web Content

"When I moved from my previous institution here, everybody to a person, whether it was from UC Berkeley or Illinois or Princeton, said 'Congratulations, that's an incredible institution,'" said Mines Provost Steve Castillo during his opening remarks at the most recent ASCSM meeting, held Thursday. Castillo, whose previous position was at New Mexico State, went on to describe the Mines administration's plans with regard to future admissions and general direction.

Castillo next gave some data about admissions: out of 6000 applications (so far), 870 freshmen will be admitted to Mines in the coming year. Last year's class, the largest in Mines's history, was 870 students.

"We had a total of 970 incoming students, including transfers, and we're not going to allow the freshman class to get any larger," he added. Undergraduate enrollment will be capped at 3600 students. "The space, the infrastructure, the buildings can't take any more students, even though people really want to come, not only from Colorado, but from the whole United States," he continued. "Our graduate enrollment...was almost 1100 students, and our applications for admission into graduate school were up by around 48%, because people want to come here and study."

Castillo's explanation for the uptick in applications: "It's the right stuff at the right time, and you guys are at the right school. We had 173 companies at the career fair, and in the midst of a recession they find you all incredibly valuable, really valuable." He mentioned that Mines graduates start at a higher salary, on average, than any other public institution.

That said, funding is a looming problem. "This is a publicly

sustained institution," Castillo explained. "12% of our total budget comes from the state of Colorado. In two years it's going to be 4%." In comparison, CU gets 8-9%. CSU gets a higher amount of state funding, however it is also feeling the impacts of an economic downturn. "[A]t 4% funding we're not going to get any more money to build buildings, we're not going to get any more money for upkeep of infrastructure," Castillo said. "Your money is building part of the Brown Hall addition, your money that you

"I'd like to have some more majors, to give more options to students that perhaps don't find that electrical engineering or chemistry is their lot in life, but something that's still within the earth, energy and environment agenda."

voted on. So we have to have revenue streams so we can go out and build."

Donors assist in keeping things running, to an extent. "Our endowment is \$150 million. Last year it was \$170 million, but the stock market has gone down somewhat. But compared to some of the institutions we compete against, like RPI and Carnegie Mellon it is still quite [good]," Castillo explained. "We're going to be announcing a large fundraising effort for the next six years. I don't know how large it's going to be, but it's going to be significant." These fundraising efforts, spearheaded by President Scoggins, allow financial aid to increase along with, though not apace with, rising tuition costs, which are higher than other public institutions but significantly lower than tuition at a private university. "Other institutions around the country are experiencing a lot worse problems than we are, and I think we're going to come through this in great shape over the next two years," Castillo added. "It's just that the state of

Colorado is forcing us to go through a fundamental transition."

On the bright side, Mines is well-known. "Among public institutions, comprehensive institutions, U.S. News and World Report ranked us 34th, among all the universities in the United States," Castillo pronounced. "That includes big schools like the University of Colorado, in addition to the other science and technology schools." Yet Mines does not want to stop there. "We think we ought to be one of the top 25 institutions," he said. The strategy for reaching this objective, according to Castillo, is twofold.

"One is to make sure you're a good product, and yes I do think students are a product," Castillo explained. "In some sense we treat you like a customer, but really our raw material is our incoming freshman class, and the output are our graduates, and ultimately the reputation of the institution lays with the success of its graduates...CSM graduates have done extremely well over the last several decades."

The other product of Mines: technology. "We do applied science and engineering," Castillo said. "Science is discovery, engineering is innovation. New knowledge, and then apply the knowledge to solve problems. And when you innovate...perhaps you solve a problem that meets the needs somewhere in society," he continued. "When you meet that need, you have a product that you can sell, and when the inputs to create that product are worth less than what the people are paying for the product, that is when wealth in this country is created." Yet Mines students are in the minority. "Five percent of our college-bound high school seniors in the last couple of years went into engineering. Twenty years ago it was eight percent," Castillo explained. "So there's fewer engineers, and the people like me, the baby

boomers, are retiring (born between 1946 and 1964)...and there's not enough of you coming to take our place." The upside: there is a heavy demand for Mines graduates, who can financially aid the institution down the road. "So if we have 173 companies here in a recession, they know they need great engineers, and this place produces some of the best in the world," he added.

Castillo then mentioned new construction projects that will serve to better meet the needs of Mines students in the next few years, including the Brown Hall extension, Marquez Hall, and the new dorm building. Additional core facilities are also planned. Castillo finished his prepared comments with on a positive note: "I want to say this is a great place, and I really enjoy working here." He then opened the floor for questions.

One major question concerned Mines's new, stricter admissions policy, and how this policy might affect retention and facilities usage. "Our average entering ACT score last year was 28," Castillo said to begin his answer. "I assume that all of you are capable of becoming great scientists and engineers. That's my assumption as the provost." His stated goal was to limit dropouts to those who have found that engineering wasn't for them.

"[T]hat's okay because the rest of your life hopefully is a long time compared to how long you've been here now, and every morning when you have your job when the alarm rings...you want to say 'I want to go to work,'" Castillo stated. "So if they leave for that reason, more power to them. I'd like to have some more majors, to give more options to students that perhaps don't find that electrical engineering or chemistry is their lot in life, but something that's still within the earth, energy and environment agenda." No mat-

ter what Mines adds as a major, the core curriculum will remain the same. "Even if (and this isn't going to happen) Mines offered a Bachelor of Arts, you're still going to have to take Calc 1, Calc 2, Calc 3, Physics 1, Physics 2, Chem 1 and Chem 2," Castillo noted, amid guffaws from the audience. "So the rigor is going to stay there. I've asked LAIS and Econ & Business whether there's something they can offer that supports the agenda of Earth, Energy and the Environment, and maybe allow a student to stay here at Mines if they want to stay here."

Castillo also addressed the concern, posed by Senior Representative Keith Roman, that administration at Mines might be becoming top-heavy. "I guess the only way I can answer that is with data. From what I've seen if I look at the budgets the cost of the administration has remained at about eight percent for the last several years," he explained. All staff increases have been in response to a staff whose responsibilities have been drastically increased over several years without an increase in manpower. "It's just like the national debt."

You can look at actual dollars, but really the real number is what is the national debt as a percentage of gross domestic

"One is to make sure you're a good product, and yes I do think students are a product."

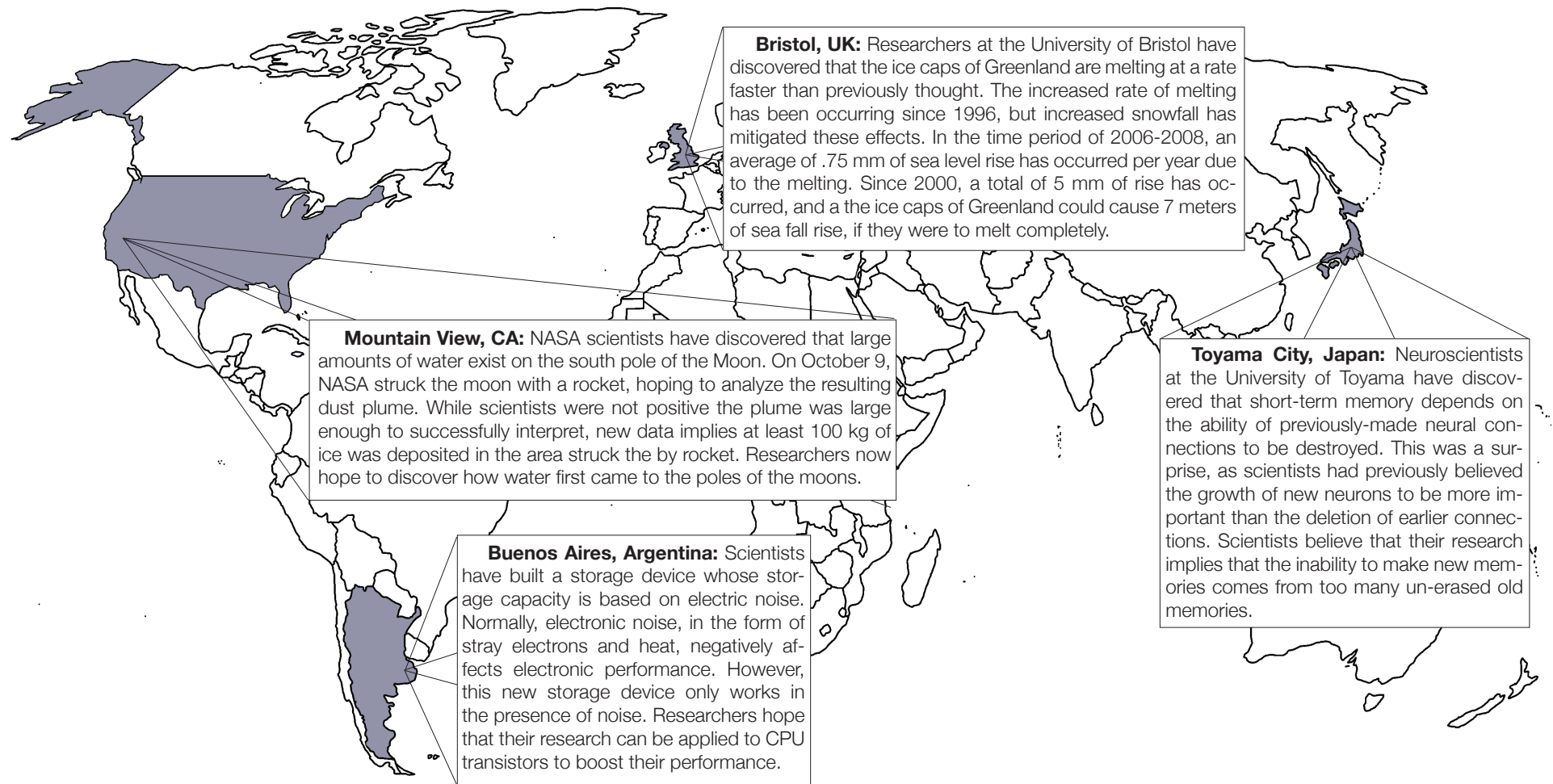
product." Castillo finished out his time at the ASCSM meeting with a call to action: graduate. "We're not trying to get rid of anybody," he stated.

After Castillo completed his discussion, ASCSM deliberated on the possibility of changing the time meetings are held. The resultant consensus was that additional input, particularly from freshmen and sophomores, was needed before making any changes.

SEE ASCSM ON PAGE 3

Scientific discoveries this week

Jake Rezac, Content Manager



Oredigger Staff

- Sara Post
Editor-in-Chief
- Lily Giddings
Managing Editor
- Abdullah Ahmed
Business Manager
- Ryan Browne
Webmaster
- Barbara Anderson
Design Editor
- Zach Boerner
Copy Editor
- Robert Gill
Asst. Business Manager for
Sales and Marketing
- Ian Littman
Asst. Business Manager, Web
Content
- Mike Stone
Fool's Gold Content Manager
- Tim Weilert
Content Manager
- Jake Rezac
Content Manager
- Spencer Nelson
Content Manager
- Neelha Mudigonda
Content Manager
- David Frossard
Faculty Advisor
- Forrest Stewart
Faculty Advisor



ASSOCIATED
COLLEGIATE
PRESS

Headlines from around the world

Emily Trudell, Staff Writer

The Food and Drug Administration announced to 27 manufacturers of **caffeinated alcoholic drinks** that they will be monitoring the making of these beverages, stating that using caffeine as an additive was never approved for these drinks.

Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, a plotter in the September 11 attacks, as well as four other **Guantanamo Bay** inmates, was transported to New York for trial in a civilian court.

Experts said that medical costs for inmates are expected to increase by three billion dollars a year, as inmates are growing older. Data from the **Bureau of Justice Statistics** shows that the amount of male inmates over the age of 55 increased by 82 percent in the past eight years.

A landslide near **Mount Kili-manjaro** in Tanzania killed 20 people including 12 children, five of which were under the age of six-years-old. The area suffered four days of heavy rainfall due to El Nino weather patterns.

A report conducted by the United States Army found that **soldier morale** is down in Afghanistan due to increased fighting, and up in Iraq due to a reduction in combat. The report was a compilation of two surveys conducted in the regions over the last year.

Evangelist **Tony Alamo**, the founder of Tony

Alamo Christian Ministries, was sentenced to 175 years in prison for several charges, including the transport of minors across state lines for sex. In addition to the jail time, Alamo was fined \$250,000. Alamo's lawyer filed an appeal Friday.

The world's largest cruise ship, **Oasis of the Sea**, arrived at the midport parking garage in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Oasis of the Seas is 40% larger than the next largest cruise ship, carries 6,600 passengers and 2,000 crewmembers, and is five times larger than the Titanic.

Indian election officials granted members of the gay, lesbian, intersex, and transgender community the **right to vote**, and are now categorized as an "other"

er" on voter applications.

Three players on the **Algerian football team** were injured after Egyptian fans threw rocks and eggs at the team van. The teams met in Cairo for a World Cup qualifying game on Saturday.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention said that the United States death toll due to **swine flu** has risen to 3,900 including at least 540 children. An estimated 22 million people have contracted the virus in the US; a prevalence that has not been seen since the outbreak of Spanish influenza in 1918.

At least 17 were killed and 60 more were injured when an 800 pound **car bomb** hit the Inter-Services Intelligence's provincial headquarters in Pakistan.



Local News

Saturday night's snow storm occurred on the anniversary of the tragic airplane crash at Stapleton International Airport in Denver. This crash was caused by inclement conditions.

Colorado Governor Bill Ritter issued a statement pointing out the inaccuracy of President Obama's statement regarding the immediate impact of the federal stimulus plan. He went on to say that the effects of the stimulus plan are likely to be felt early in 2010.

A 55 year old mystery was solved recently when investigators in Boulder were finally able to identify the body of a young girl murdered and found in Boulder Canyon in 1954. Read more from this story at www.denverpost.com.

Colorado wildlife groups and state officials are teaming up to track wildlife around I-70 in an effort to prevent collisions when animals attempt to cross the highway. www.I-70WildlifeWatch.org has been created to help track the animals.

U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu recently announced awards for 123 projects in 39 states, including three at Colorado School of Mines, as part of the Department of Energy's investments in the exploration and development of new geothermal fields and research into advanced geothermal technologies.

Stewart A. Bliss and Mohan S. Misra were appointed by Gov. Bill Ritter to the governing board of Colorado School of Mines with terms running Jan. 1, 2010, through Dec. 31, 2013.

ASCSM discusses parking congestion

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Jason Kauffman, who stood in for Rambert Nahm in the latest Undergraduate Council meeting, noted that the LAIS Humanities minor has been renamed to Literature, Energy and the Environment. Additionally, the Space and Planetary Science and Engineering area of special interest has been approved; an e-mail regarding the new ASI was sent to students on November 13th.

ASCSM Faculty Advisor Derek Morgan noted that construction for the Brown Building addition will begin in February, and groundbreaking on Marquez Hall, which will be north of the CTLM, will occur during the summer. He also announced that the Board of Trustees have approved \$71 million in bonds for renovation of

Weaver towers and construction of a new dormitory and health center. The time frame for bonded improvements is unknown, however depending on how quickly bond orders are filled construction could start next year.

Junior Class President Keith Stevens reported that Wednesday night's junior class poker tournament was a success, with an attendance of thirty students.

Junior Class Representative Justin Tappan, on behalf of the Public Safety Committee, noted that Mines is currently accepting bids for the Mines Emergency Alert system, and encouraged comments, suggestions and problem reports regarding the system. He also noted that a surveillance camera may not be installed in the freshman parking lot for a while yet, and encouraged anyone who

parks in the lot to be aware of any suspicious actions while in the lot.

Stevens, on behalf of the Sustainability Committee, reported that the committee will be hiring an outside firm to audit energy usage in on-campus buildings to improve energy and water efficiency. He also said that the committee is working with Aramark to provide methods and guidelines for putting on zero-waste events.

"Boulder can put on a football game and have it be zero-waste, but we have a club meeting of ten and can't do that," he lamented. Lastly, he encouraged students to contact him if they wanted to see the formerly available Sustainability class, cut due to LAIS budget constraints, reinstated.

Next, Golden's pending decision to turn near-campus parking into spaces for city residents only was discussed. The decision, brought to ASCSM's Parking Committee representatives a few hours before the ASCSM meeting, was partially based on students' poor parking track record. The resultant congestion will not be alleviated by the additional 75 parking spots that will be created in the space formerly occupied by the Hall of Justice.

The parking congestion issue could place some of the construction that is supposed to begin this spring on hold, Young reported. "Part of the reason why this issue is moving forward is because students do not park legally or well," Dan Baker, Graduate Students Association President, noted.

One possible measure to alleviate some on-campus parking congestion, proposed by the committee, is the creation of a reduced-rate Mines Park only parking pass, as long as students agreed not to park on campus. A student in the audience pointed out that the Ford lot could be used for more parking. Senior Class President Sara Post suggested that students living on-campus be the last to receive a limited number of parking permits. Other suggestions included the institution of temporary metered-access lots, and encouragement to the City of Golden to more avidly pursue parking tickets for students parking in residential areas.

ASCSM Vice President Ashley Young reiterated that the Parking Advisory Committee needs another student representative.

Young also reported that the Public Safety and Parking Services Committee had received 500 responses to their recent survey and was in the process of compiling these responses.

Re:Design: A dramatization of the letters between Charles Darwin and Asa Gray

November marks the 150th year anniversary of the publication of *On the Origin of Species*, a seminal work which generated--in its time as in our own--heated discussion and debate around Darwin's new theory of evolution by natural selection and its consequences for religious belief.

When: Tuesday, November 17, 4:00 - 5:30
Where: Boettcher Room, Arthur Lakes Library

"Organic Nature abounds with unmistakable and irresistible indications of design."
-Asa Gray

"Can the mind of man, which has, as I fully believe, been developed from a mind as low as that possessed by the lowest animal, be trusted when it draws such grand conclusions?"
-Charles Darwin

For more information, please contact:
Tina Gianquitto, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Division of Liberal Arts and International Studies
Colorado School of Mines



16547 W. 11th Ave. First month's rent FREE. Great for students! 1900 sq.ft., 5 bdrms, 2.5 bths, AC, fridge, d/w, stove, lrg driveway, 1 car attached garage, w-s paid for, finished basement, w/d hookups, partially fenced in backyard, \$1395/mo & \$1395 deposit. Leland(303)665-8944.

Astronaut shares experience with students

Alec Westerman
Staff Writer

"I got to fly on 5 space shuttle flights," remarked Dr. James Voss, "and I still can't believe how lucky I am." Voss also participated in an extended mission on the space station. He downplayed his experience as an explorer while aboard the space station. He remarked that there were some shortages that occurred, despite bringing everything they needed.

Speaking to the Intro to Space Exploration class at Mines, Voss noted that the crowd consisted largely of engineers. "71% of astronauts have an engineering degree," he explained.

Upon arrival at the space station, Voss took what was the "longest space walk in history." It was nine hours long. Among other things, Voss and his comrades attached a "multi-purpose logistics module." Despite its being weighed at 100 lbs, "I was able to move it about myself," Voss claimed.

Once the work outside was done, Voss, Susan Helms, and Yuri Usachov moved inside the space station. There, Voss explained, "The first thing we started doing was outfitting the space station... we installed a lot of equipment." Remarking on a new picture depicting this process, Dr. Voss admitted, "We use gray tape a lot up there... Hoses and cables have a mind of their own."

Voss shared that "floating is really neat." On the flip side, however, he explained that "it's easy to move around in space." Too easy. He explained that astronauts have to do a lot of exercise to compensate.

The space station has vibration isolated exercise equipment just for that purpose. It is vibration-isolated to prevent the vibrations of exercises from shaking the whole space station.

Voss and Usachov settled into the Russian part of the station, while Susan slept in the lab. Voss commented that sleeping in space is really comfortable. He said, "I never woke up except when we had an alarm, which happened many, many times... I love sleeping in space."

Space shuttle Endeavor was the first visitor to arrive. It arrived in 2001, so Helms and the crew played the theme from

"Space Odyssey 2001" to greet them. While the space shuttle was there, they took the opportunity for a space walk as the space station was, as of yet, only ready for Russian space walks.

They threw a party before the Endeavor left.

One day later, a Soyuz arrived with the first tourist to space. There is always a Soyuz docked with the space station that can serve as a means of emergency evacuation. This Soyuz is replaced with a new one every six months.

One of the experiments on board involved having a satellite learn to control itself in response to disturbances with the Van Allen radiation belt from experience. He commented that he was impressed by how well everything that came to the space station fit and worked together. A vacuum hose was the only thing that didn't work during the trip.

Voss explained, "You get a sun rise or sun set every 45 minutes in space." He commented that one of his favorite things about space is "just looking out the window... the earth is so beautiful." He commented that the deserts and oceans are the most beautiful. "Even looking at the clouds from space is pretty darn neat," he said.

"The food's really pretty good," he commented, though the Russian foods could be a little bland and that they sometimes needed some Tabasco.

After nearly six months, Voss, Helms, and Usachov flew back on the space shuttle Discovery after providing brief training to their replacements. Voss admitted, "I was ready to go home, to be honest with you." On the way back, Discovery flew around the space station looking for damage and then headed for earth, where the crew faced months of rehabilitation on account of the weakening affects of space.

"I had to get back in shape to be able to walk very well," Voss explained. He has come to believe that it takes a day on earth for every day spent in space for someone to get back to where they were physically.

"Bone mass loss is another thing that happens in space," Voss added. All this happens because bodies get used to not having the strain of gravity on them.

Dr. Voss summarized, "That was how I spent my summer in 2001."

Geek of the Week

...Michelle Wiechman, Junior: Geology and Geological Engineering

Zachary Sorenson
Staff Writer

Do you consider yourself a geek?

On the outside no, but when you get to know me, and you hang out with me, yes.

What makes you a geek?

I'm a closet nerd, I like Disney and Star Trek. I can admit that here which is nice.

But Disney is awesome, I wouldn't consider that geeky.

It is awesome, but people think it is nerdy for some reason, like when I can quote Disney movies people are like, "You are such a nerd," plus I'm really good at Disney Scene-it.

What do you like to do outside of school?

I do a lot of community service and I have horses, so I go horseback riding. But at the moment [I like to] spend time with my friends.

What is the geekiest thing you have ever done?

Most recently, during one of my Halloween parties we had an hour where a group of us just sat around playing with Rubik's cubes. Overall, I had an entire weekend of just watching Henry the VIII autobiographies and The Tutors, and reading books [about Henry the VIII].

And you did this for a class?

No, it was for fun. I'm a big Henry the VIII fan, so I'm kind of

an amateur historian.

If you could pick on superpower what would it be and why?

Mind reading.

Wow that was pretty quick.

I have thought about that before. [I would use it to] see what others were thinking, [especially] if it was something bad about me. It would come in handy on tests as well.

If you could talk to one person, dead or alive, who would it be?

Anne Boleyn. She is the second wife of Henry the VIII, it's because of her that England has its own church and Henry the VIII broke off from Spain. She influenced [people] a lot, and she also got screwed [because she ended up getting beheaded].

What do you plan on doing once you leave Mines?

I plan on going to grad school here. Afterward I hope to travel internationally, and work for an oil company somewhere international. The ideal would be to work for NASA.



ZACHARY SORENSON / OREDIGGER



Ian Littman, Tech Break Columnist

From the Googleplex

Google has been rather active lately. From internet protocols to free WiFi, Google is getting full-court press for going about its daily job of simultaneously taking over the world and not being evil.

The biggest thing Google is doing for folks is giving away free WiFi at 47 airports. This comes in addition to the recently launched "Free WiFi on any Virgin America flight" program. The caveat here is that some airports (San Antonio's terminals, for example) have had free WiFi in the past, and some other airports (like our own DIA, with its atrocious free WiFi system) aren't included in the program. That said, the program, which runs until January 15, is great for both airport-goers and Google; everyone gets free WiFi, and Google gets some traffic for themselves.

Even better news for patrons of airport WiFi, as a result of this program, a few airports will now offer free WiFi for everyone for the foreseeable future. It may be that the airports (Seattle's and Burbank's) weren't able to afford the fiber startup costs, but are more than willing to foot the monthly bill for access after Google pays for the initial

equipment and bandwidth costs. As a matter of clarification, Google employees aren't on the ground deploying hotspots; they've partnered with WiFi aggregator Boringo Wireless, WiFi infrastructure builder Advanced Wireless Systems, and bandwidth provider Time Warner Cable to pull this job off.

Next is Google's recent bytes-for-the-price-of-bits pricing change on their paid storage options for Gmail and Picasa Web Albums. Google announced on November 10 that they were upping everyone's paid storage accounts by a factor of eight while keeping prices static, adding a \$5-per-year 20GB storage plan and high-dollar, high-capacity options for those who need them. The highest-end option - 16TB of storage for a mere \$4096 per year. Pricing per gigabyte per year across the board is just 25 cents, a jaw-droppingly low number for an online storage service of any type, though still above the price per gigabyte of today's high-capacity hard disks.

The bottom line is that Google is still making a profit here on e-mail and photo packrats like myself, and they're passing on tech-

nology-induced savings to their apparently valued customers. That said, Microsoft's Windows Live Mail and Yahoo's Mail services both have "unlimited" storage at this point, though neither service has the cachet of Gmail, and Yahoo's Flickr service costs \$25 per year for anything more than 100MB of storage and two video uploads per month.

Third, Google has updated their Latitude location service to record our location over time, as well as notify you when friends are around in places you normally wouldn't expect them to be. Don't like those features that come with non-iPhone versions of Google Maps? Don't worry; they aren't enabled by default.

Last but not least, Google has been toying in their labs with a new web delivery protocol, packaging existing standards with compression and file request prioritization. They're doing this in order to increase web browsing speeds by 55% on standard interconnections with supported browsers. The feature isn't out of labs quite yet but SPDY (as the protocol is named) makes both ends of the web browsing transaction more efficient, a win-win for both Google and everyone sitting in front of a web browser these days.

Pricing per gigabyte per year across the board is just 25 cents, a jaw-droppingly low number for an online storage service of any type.

Ellie Blair-Kennedy explores outdoors, calc students' minds

Katie Huckfeldt
Staff Writer

Walking into one of Professor Ellie Blair-Kennedy's math classes, students are greeted by a warm smile and a woman with a passion for teaching. Cheerful and upbeat, Blair-Kennedy is always willing to answer the countless questions from her students with thoughtful insight. But what students may not know is that alongside a passion for teaching is a passion for adventure.

Blair-Kennedy started out just as her students, a Mines Oredigger. After getting her degree in civil engineering, a degree her parents influenced her to pursue, she needed some time off. Blair-Kennedy explained, "I traveled to Mexico for six months and was a raft guide during the summer."

Initially going to Mexico with a fellow raft guide, she later

"I shaved my head sophomore year in college, just to see what it was like."

decided to travel the country on her own. Taking buses, she explored the country; from taking language classes to misunderstandings with the local police, she said, "It was a great experi-

ence."

After her travels, Blair-Kennedy found a job with the National Park Service as a civil engineer. But after only a year, a move to Denver meant a new job. Once back in Denver, she decided on a change. She recalled, "I went back to school to get my master's in math, which I loved, and that's when I found teaching."

After teaching at CU and Front Range Community College, Ellie settled at Mines. Why Mines? "Mines is fun and interesting to teach at, you guys are so motivated and intelligent and keep me on my toes," she explained. But the adventures continued outside the classroom.

Along with her husband, Blair-Kennedy is an active outdoor enthusiast, enjoying everything from marathons to rock-climbing. A quick look around her office will clue you into her favorite past time; rock-climbing. Ellie is a true, die-hard climber and she said, "I

"You guys are so motivated and intelligent and keep me on my toes."

like climbing outdoors; I only go to the [indoor climbing] gym if I have to." Recalling a memorable climb, she remembered, "I climbed the Diamond on Long's Peak, which is about 1,000 feet of climbing and tops out on top of a 14er." She also tells the story of the Grand, a climb that took her and her husband twenty-two hours of straight climbing. Laughing, she explained, "On the climb down I was so tired I kept thinking I saw a suitcase on the side of the mountain." Along with rock-climbing, Blair-Kennedy is an avid skier, mountain biker, and completes a half-marathon once a year. She summed it up by saying, "Anything outside is good."

One last thing students may not know about professor Blair-Kennedy? She revealed, "I shaved my head sophomore year in college, just to see what it was like."

Blair-Kennedy demonstrates her climbing skills on Stratton Hall.



KATIE HUCKFELDT / OREDIGGER

Special Olympics comes to Mines

Steven Wooldridge
Staff Writer

The Olympics are here! This past Saturday, the Special Olympics Colorado (SOCO) hosted the annual Fall Classic games. Over 500 athletes from across Colorado came to the Denver-Metro area to compete in Bowling and Volleyball. Our very own Student Recreation Center was fortunate enough to host the all day volleyball tournament.

The event kicked off with an explosive opening ceremony fitting for any Olympics. The atmosphere was full of enthusiasm and excitement.

Over 15 teams from across Colorado arrived to represent their respective locales and com-

pete within four categories of play. These teams played in regional tournaments to come here. Athletes compete in events including team competitions and individual skills. The atmosphere at this event was different from other competitions, as the focus was put on having a good time. The Special Olympic oath says it best, "Let me win, but if I cannot win, Let me be brave in the attempt."

Dating back to 1968, the first International Special Olympics Games were held at Soldier Field, Chicago, Illinois. The event was a huge success, helping Special Olympics become nationally recognized. A little over a year later,

Special Olympics Colorado was formed and held a one day track meet for nearly 400 athletes. Today, nearly 10,000 Colorado athletes compete in over 20 sports year-round from Basketball to Snowboarding to Volleyball. The organization has nearly 6,000 volunteers and relies entirely on contributions from private individuals. The United States Olympic Committee and the International Olympic Committee officially recognize Special Olympics. Worldwide, Special Olympics are comprised of 2.25 million athletes.



Below, the Cherry Creek Firebolts and DDRC Spikers stretch before the opening ceremony.



Below, the Colorado Springs Hitters set the ball to the Montrose Spikers.



Below, the Cheery Creek Firebolts congratulate the Greeley Panthers on a first round win.



ALL PHOTOS STEVEN WOOLDRIDGE / OREDIGGER

Women's basketball team starts season strong

Kaneesa Felton
Staff Writer

Last year, the Mines Women's Basketball team had a winning record of 14-5 in conference. This was the first in the program's history. Paula Krueger, women's basketball coach for six years (going into her seventh this year), led the team to this amazing victory, and this year she hopes to top this. This all starts with "going into the pre-season strong" and "[being] offensively stronger," she said. She believes that by starting out well, the team can do better overall.

The team is looking very good this year, with three returning starters, seniors Emily Dalton (forward), Savannah Afoa (center), and junior Brecca Gaffney. Dalton has always been a strong player, especially in the preseason. Working with Afoa, and Gaffney, Dalton is "solid on the glass." Katie Carty, sophomore center, is a solid player within the team. There are also two returning sophomore guards, Stephanie Fogle and Angie Churchalis, along with three upcoming freshmen.

So far, the team has been working together well. In practice, Krueger believes that the team is further along, experience-wise, though it is hard to say what this will do for the rest of the season. She believes that they "have the

ability" to make this season a great one, but the team has to prove that they deserve it.

Saturday, November 7, the Women's Basketball team had an exhibition game against Colorado College. The Mines team dominated, but the goal was not just winning. The main goals were to improve defensively and execute, making sure that everything is "where it is needed." This game was necessary to show the team the areas that are needed for improvement and where the team is solid. And when Krueger was asked whether the team is prepared for the upcoming season, she said that for the most part, they are. But, of course, there are just some things that need to be adjusted "on the fly." The team needs to be "continually preparing," Krueger said.

When asked how she feels, knowing what the team accomplished last year, going into this upcoming season, Krueger believes that the team needs to build on this confidence. "It's really a motivational factor," Krueger stated. This gives the team a chance to "start a tradition" and "build a legacy," she explained.

The first home game for the Women's team is Saturday, November 21, at 2:00 PM vs. Hawaii Pacific, so be sure to go out and support the team.



The Yard House is an upscale, casual eatery known for great food, classic rock music and the world's largest selection of draft beer.

HAPPY HOUR featuring
MARTINIS & BEER

DAILY • 3:00PM - 6:00PM
DAILY • 10:00PM - CLOSE

AND MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL
from game kick-off to final play 9/14/09-12/28/09

SELECT HALF-PRICED PIZZAS & APPETIZERS

\$3.50 Domestic Pints • **\$4.00** Craft/Import Pints
\$4.50 Goblets • **\$4.25** Well Drinks
\$5.75 House Martinis • **\$2 OFF** Wine by the Glass
\$6.50 SLIDERS

Yard House supports designated driver programs. We card anyone who looks under 35.

COLORADO MILLS • 14500 WEST COLFAX AVE • 303.278.YARD • yardhouse.com

Pie tastes like the holidays

Neelha Mudigonda
Content Manager

Since Thanksgiving is quickly approaching, I decided to write a pie recipe for those of you who read the Cooking Corner to enjoy. It's a relatively simple recipe to follow, and I expect my friends who try this out to share with me.

Ingredients

- 2 oz butter
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 large lemon
- 9 fresh, ripe, red apples
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 unbaked pie shells

Directions

Peel the apples; slice them into as many pieces as you would like, but make sure not to include the core.

Cut the lemon into two halves, and squeeze the lemon juice over the apple pieces uniformly.

Pre-heat the oven to 350 degrees F.

Mix the butter, brown sugar, and flour in a separate bowl. The mixture will be lumpy, so try to split them into pea-sized portions. This will be your topping.

Combine the apples and lemon juice with white sugar, one tablespoon of flour, and cinnamon. Toss the mixture in the bowl until well-mixed.

Transfer the apple mixture into the pie shells equally, and sprinkle the topping on both pie shells.

Bake the pies at 350 degrees F for approximately 50 minutes or until the topping doesn't get too dark.

This recipe is good for 8 people, so share the joy... or have it all to yourself.

Scones are a great dish for all occasions

Sarah McMurray
Staff Writer

Here's another scone recipe; my first scone recipe, raisin sour cream scones, was positively received. So with that in mind, I made a batch of blueberry streusel scones for a small potluck dinner.

Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
 - 1/4 cup granulated white sugar
 - 2 teaspoons baking powder
 - 1/8 teaspoon salt
 - 6 tablespoons chilled, butter, cut into pieces
 - 1 cup frozen blueberries
 - 1 large egg, lightly beaten
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 - 1/2 cup heavy cream
 - Large dollop of sour cream
- Brushing tops of scones:**
Heavy Cream
- Streusel Topping:**
1/4 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup all purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
2 tablespoons chilled butter, cut into pieces

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F, and line a cookie sheet with parchment paper.
2. In a large bowl, sift together the flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Use a whisk or fork to mix.
3. Cut the butter into small pieces (1 quarter tablespoon each) and blend into the flour mixture with a pastry blender, two knives, a fork, or clean fingers. The mixture should look like coarse crumbs.
4. Gently fold in the blueberries. *Make sure they stay frozen!* The dough becomes impossible

after they start melting. So after this point, try to work quickly.

5. In a small bowl, combine the cream, beaten egg, dollop of sour cream, and vanilla. Add this mixture to the flour mixture and stir just until the dough comes together. Do not over-mix the dough or the scones will be tough. But do be careful of under-mixing, as the dough can also fall apart...

6. Transfer the dough to a lightly floured surface and knead the dough gently four or five times (or until you can get it to stop falling apart and getting blueberries all over you; I had to use wax paper under my hands to squish it together) and then pat the dough into a circle that is about 7 inches round and about 4.5 inches thick.

7. Cut this circle in half, then cut each half into four pie-shaped wedges (triangles). This gives it the classic scone shape you see in glass cases.

8. Place the scones on the baking sheet and brush the tops of the scones with a little cream.

9. For the Streusel Topping: In

a small bowl whisk together the sugar, flour, and cinnamon. With a pastry blender, two knives, a fork, or your fingers, cut in the butter until crumbly. Top each scone with a teaspoon or two of the streusel mixture. Cover and refrigerate any leftover streusel mixture.

10. Bake the scones until nicely browned, about 18 - 22 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center of a scone comes out clean. These are best eaten warm on the day they are made but can be covered and stored for a few days.

When cut the way recommended in the recipe, it makes 8 large scones. However, for the sake of a new recipe and potluck menu, I wanted more, smaller scones. So I discovered, if you take the scones out ten minutes before they are done, you can easily cut the soft bread of one thick triangle into two smaller ones, sprinkle more streusel over it, and bake for ten more minutes.



SARAH MCMURRAY / OREDIGGER

These blueberry scones are a great dish to bring as a dessert.

SIGMA KAPPA SORORITY

One Heart, One Way

ULTRA VIOLET SPAGHETTI DINNER

The ladies of Sigma Kappa Sorority would like to invite you to our spaghetti dinner to raise money for our national charities:

- Alzheimer's Association
- Inherit the Earth
- Maine Seacoast Mission
- Disaster Relief Funds



Event Information:

- Delicious Food!
- Fundraiser Drawing
- Speaker about Alzheimer's Disease
- Just a good time!!

Location: Green Center: Friedhoff Hall
924 16th Street
Golden, CO 80401

There will be lots of signs!!!

Time: 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Date: November 21, 2009

Please RSVP!!
Contact information:
Ann Lott:
alott@mines.edu
206-437-8998

Price:
\$5 per Adult
\$3 per Child

SIGMA KAPPA SORORITY

Green Center
Friedhoff Hall
924 16th Street
Golden, CO 80401

Contact Person: Ann Lott
Phone: 206-437-9889
E-mail: alott@mymail.mines.edu

Weezer gets rad with *Raditude*

Charlotte Adams
Staff Writer

Weezer is a group that has managed to garner national attention for more than a decade. From their humble beginnings on *Weezer [Blue]* to their influential record *Pinkerton* and everything since, Weezer has consistently put out quality rock music that appeals to a broad swath of listeners. With the release of their newest album, *Raditude*; I have to say, Weezer has done it again.

The first song on the album, "(If You're Wondering If I Want You To) I Want You To," is so upbeat and fun, you can't help but dance. They experimented by featuring Lil' Wayne on "Can't Stop Partying" and I find the track absolutely addictive. They are still Weezer, but with new twists that just make them that much better.

The rock/rap mix brought by Weezer and Lil' Wayne is impressive. Both singers have distinctive voices and the transitions from one singer to the next are well done. Rivers Cuomo sings over Lil' Wayne at parts, and their voices mesh nearly perfectly. It will make you want put the track on repeat and listen to it over and over again.

As always, the songs on the album each sound a little bit dif-

ferent. However, the album flows together nicely. *Raditude* also fits together with their previous album, *Weezer [Red Album]*. This consistency is not something a lot of bands can pull off successfully.

Needless to say, I will be listening to this album 24/7 for the

next week. *Raditude* is a definite buy for Weezer fans and those who haven't really heard anything other than their singles. Another plus, in the booklet you can see all the band members relaxing in their animal print Snuggles. I would definitely recommend buying this album.



OREDIGGER

Cover art for Weezer's album *Raditude*.

You're Invited

to an exclusive dialogue
with **Elizabeth Suarez.**

Conflict resolution and inclusiveness/cultural competency strategist. B.S. Chemical Eng. (Cornell) and MBA (Wharton School of Business)

on Unique Applications of an Engineering Degree

**November 19, 2009
10-10:50 AM**

Student Center, Ballroom C

RSVP by 11/18 to Zach Aman (zaman@mines.edu)

celebrate
(you) uniqueness

Colorado School of Mines
diversity.mines.edu

Behavioral finance is a mental game

Nick Libertini
Staff Writer

The act of putting money at risk is a potent catalyst for irrational behavior. No investor plans to buy high and sell low, but market chaos is capable of luring even the most astute investors into making imprudent investing decisions.

Researchers have done extensive research on behavioral finance in an effort to understand the physiological sabotage that worms its way into most investors' portfolios. Many researchers, including Nobel Prize winner Daniel Kahneman, have come to the conclusion that crass investment decisions find their roots in anchoring effects, confirming biases, and unbalanced feedback from gains and losses.

The anchoring effect can be described as an investor's illogical attachment to past market levels. Investors are susceptible to anchoring effects when a stock deviates from its current market price. A stock's movement may be attributed to sensible fundamental and technical reasons, but investors become fixated with the previous price level of the stock. This anchoring effect deters investors who own a declining stock from liquidating their position because they incorrectly believe that the stock is still worth more. The anchoring effect is so detrimental because it causes investors to ignore critical market signals while they hope and pray for the market to rebound.

While the anchoring effect causes investors to disregard pertinent information all together, confirming biases inhibit investors from looking at market conditions objectively. Once investors make a decision, they are highly susceptible to finding information that supports their decision and ignoring information that goes against their

decision. For instance, if an investor buys a stock, he or she tends to embrace all the reasons why the stock should go up, while snubbing any reasons why the stock might go down. This confirming bias causes important facts to be overlooked or downplayed, which hampers investing decisions.

Additionally, researchers have found that the satisfaction investors receive from a gain in the market is considerably less than the dissatisfaction they receive from a loss in the market. Daniel Bernoulli's idea of diminishing marginal utility partially explains why people do not

value the risk of loss and the risk of gain equally. Unfortunately, this discrepancy causes investors to take imprudent risks to avoid losses while being unnecessarily conservative with their gains. This behavior is the complete opposite of how investors should approach risk taking in the market.

Finally, in contrast to common beliefs, market returns are NOT normally distributed. In reality, the distribution of market returns has fatter tails (leptokurtosis), which causes investors to under-anticipate extreme events like market crashes. Unfortunately, when investor expectations go unfulfilled, they tend to act irrationally which exacerbates their portfolio's damage during extreme market events.

Behavioral finance paints a vivid picture of the havoc that emotions and irrational responses can

inflict on investing decisions. Every human investor is susceptible to these foibles, thus we must implement an inviting game plan to combat our irrationality.

First, research yourself before you research the market. Some questions to answer are: What is my investing time-frame? What are my investing goals? What is my investing methodology (fundamental, technical, news driven)? What is my plan of action when the market declines/rises? What is my risk tolerance? What size of loss in the market would make me inconsolable? Set a liquidation point for your assets far above this "uncle" point.

Be objective in your investment research. For every piece of credible information that you find supporting your opinion, try and find an opposing viewpoint to balance your decision. Be flexible with your expectations, but consistent with your execution. You should devise a system for making consistent contributions to your investment portfolio so that you can average out the volatile swings in the market. Bounce ideas off of friends, family members, and financial professionals. A second opinion can offer perspective and clarity for investing decisions to which you are emotionally attached.

Finally, write down your investment plan and review it often. An investment plan seems trivial, but it will serve as a guiding light when the market does something unexpected and you are compelled to do something irrational.

gusting slob-nerds with an aversion to proper social protocol. Please remember that engineering is a respectable profession, not the art of vagrants. Get a haircut, take a shower, and buy some deodorant. By taking these few simple actions, CSM could quickly become a much more pleasant place for everyone.



Minds at Mines Accomplishments

Roby Brost
Staff Writer

Like some runaway train that even Superman's powers cannot halt, finals week is fast approaching. With so many tests completed, homework assignments agonized over, late night study sessions ended, many fun activities have fallen by the wayside. Perhaps it was a party that was sidelined in order to have success on some exam or a hobby that was otherwise neglected throughout the duration of the school year. Maybe some event, lecture, or standing dinner date with a TV show that left characters on pause. Between studying for finals and cramming for another round of tests, there are many things that Mines students will do. What is it that will occur before those fatal finals? Clearly, many Mines students have some things to accomplish.



"Something to accomplish before finals week? I'm going to go swing dancing, probably down in Denver. It's something that I like to do, arguably my favorite hobby, but I haven't really gotten around to it much this semester."

Kory Risky



"I am going to hit a skate park, do some aggressive inline skating, you know - practice some physics principles... It's a great application of physics, many people fall over because they forget to keep their center of mass over their toes. It's key."

Michael Bratton



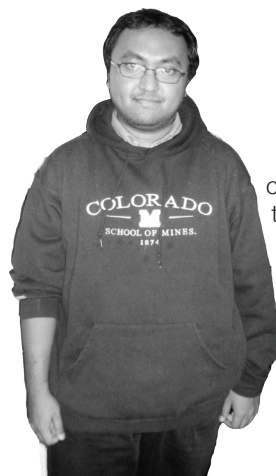
"I plan to get to level 70 in multiplayer Call of Duty Four - Modern Warfare Two. I think that this is something that I can accomplish over Thanksgiving Break."

Paul Susmarki



"One goal before finals is to give blood at the Bonfils Blood drive, for the first time ever."

Colin Eckerling



"I am going to study very hard for all of my classes. But the day before classes? I am going to do nothing, and just relax."

Harry Mahardika

ALL PHOTOS ROBY BROST / OREDIGGER

Tim's two cents

Say N-O to B-O

Tim Weilert
Content Manager

There are few things that offend me in the way that bodily odor does. I am positive that people who smell terrible probably have great personalities and are incredibly nice; however, if I feel like vomiting every time I meet such a person, I doubt we'll have a very good relationship.

I remember floor meetings as a freshman wherein our hall director sternly encouraged us to take personal hygiene seriously. Perhaps then, it was acceptable to smell a bit; 50 guys living in close-quarters was bound to get a bit funky.

However, that was then, and this is now. Just last week, I found

myself trying to get some work done on an important assignment in a campus computer lab. Suddenly, I found myself unable to concentrate. I have no idea *who* was behind the smell, but it was incredibly disgusting, distracting, and inspiration enough for me to rant and rave about personal hygiene for my opinion piece this week.

You know you've seen the type, the, "I'm too busy doing homework and playing video games to care" guy. They can be seen slinking along with greasy, unkempt hair and a total disregard for their immediate surroundings.

Not only do such people make it hard to concentrate, but they reinforce the negative stereotype that engineering students are dis-



Editorials Policy

The Oredigger is a designated public forum. Editors have the authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval and may edit submitted pieces for length so long as the original meaning of the piece is unchanged. Opinions contained within the Opinion Section do not necessarily reflect those of Colorado School of Mines or The Oredigger. The Oredigger does not accept submissions without identification and will consider all requests for anonymity in publication on a case-by-case basis. Submissions less than 300 words will receive preference.

Fool's Gold

"Get ready for some Turducken"

The *real* story behind the ASCSM meeting

Ian Littman
Dissociated Student, CSM

As a penalty for long article submission, the writer of this article was forced to summarize the proceedings of last Thursday's ASCSM meeting. So here goes.

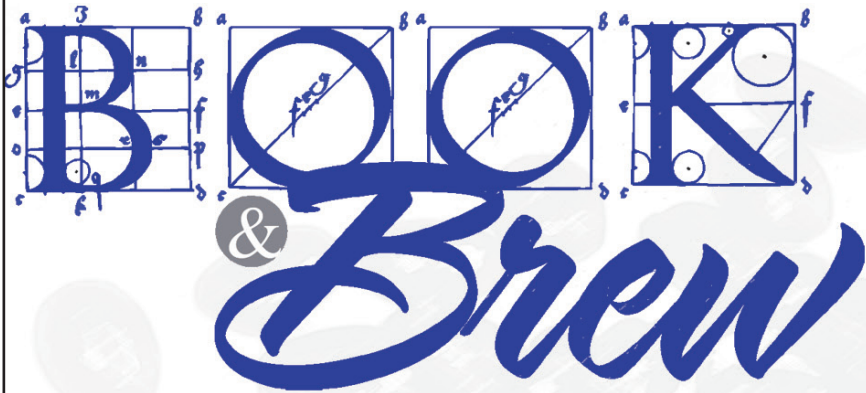
1. Provost says that Mines kids are awesome
2. Provost says that he wants attrition rate to be a near zero as possible, then references "Look to your left..." as if that didn't still happen.
3. Audience reminds him that "Look to your left..." speech still does happen.
4. Provost is shocked, then continues pontification about how Mines kids are like well-made cars, using GM as an example (!?!)
5. Provost talks about how Mines is getting practically nothing from the state these days, but gushes about how everything will be just fine with our extroverted, business-minded, donor-chasing president.
6. Provost launches into Q&A session, confident that his M.S. in B.S. and grand visions will serve him well.

7. ASCSM member asks "Since Mines is being selective, they'll get better students, who won't flunk out after one or two semesters. Are we going to make courses harder to try and flunk even more people out, or what are we going to do?"
8. Provost reiterates that he doesn't want to see anyone go unless engineering isn't their cup of tea. He also wants to create more majors so that those students' cups of tea will still be brewed at Mines. Regardless of major, Calc 1-3, Physics 1-2 and Chem 1-2 will still be required, possibly overruling motions set in place to the contrary mere weeks ago.
9. ASCSM member asks "Isn't the administration becoming top-heavy?" This person apparently does not realize he is asking this of a member of the Mines administration.
10. Provost states that the administration is doing just fine as far as top-heaviness goes, using the national debt as an example for some odd reason.
11. Time is called on a speaker for the first time in ASCSM history. Provost thanks everyone for coming and says he wants everyone to graduate.

12. A \$10 Chipotle gift card is raffled. The loser says something under his breath and walks out.
13. Apparently LAIS wasn't getting any students with their Humanities minor. They've changed the name to something more along the lines of "Earth, Environment and Pretty Flowers" in hopes that someone will take the minor.
14. Construction projects are mentioned. Fortunately the mention only takes two minutes, and uses "cool" too many times, since almost everything has been talked about before (the ASCSM meeting last month, to be precise).
15. A new construction project is mentioned: a new student health center. The health center will be built on previously unusable territory, in an area where subsidence will be sure to compromise the integrity of the structure mere months after its completion. Geological Engineering members of ASCSM are horrified, but not surprised, at the move.
16. Apparently a couple dozen students out of a 750-plus person class is enough of a turnout to call a class event a "success," probably because the "success" did not involve giving away free Chipotle bur-

- ritos.
17. Mines is trying to work on creating zero-waste events. They fail to recognize that everywhere else "zero waste" simply means "take your trash home." The term "greenwashing" is used.
18. The Public Safety Committee ACSM representatives note that nothing has been done about crosswalks (by the city) or freshman lot surveillance (by the school). They recommend that students be aware of their surroundings, report suspicious activity and carry a non-firearm capable of dismembering miscreants just to be on the safe side.
19. Apparently the city of Golden doesn't like the parking antics of Mines students, so they're working on taking away tons of street parking and handing it to Golden residents, who do live here but have managed to find parking thusfar.
20. Hand-wringing erupts.
21. Someone mentions temporary for-pay parking on top of the student parking pass fee. Someone else suggests that tickets be handed out with extreme gusto to offenders in Golden residential areas, in the hopes that this capitalistic solution will keep off-campus

- parking available. The Oredigger endorses said idea, because it allows for large amounts of heated discussion in opinion columns...or not.
 22. Groaning and snarling erupt.
 23. The upcoming 75-spot gravel lot in place of the Hall of Justice is mentioned.
 24. There was much rejoicing.
 25. Someone mentions the fact that prospects are bleak for a parking garage on-campus.
 26. The mood darkens, precisely 19 hours before the weather turns snowy in the Denver metro. Coincidence? I think not.
 27. The discussion of parking is voted upon to be limited to another five minutes.
 28. Discussion of parking ends after six minutes.
 29. A few non-memorable remarks are made for the good of the council, generally consisting of "Pleasepleasepleaseplease-PLEASE be our student representative on this committee...your voice will count this way! Honest!"
 30. The meeting is adjourned, a record twelve minutes late.
- NOTE: The record for lateness is not in its magnitude, but rather the lack thereof.



at Arthur Lakes
Library



...Get Your Coffee On

- Hormone-free Milk
- Do you work on Campus on Saturdays? You can now get your AFPP (afternoon face plant prevention) at the Book & Brew

- PROUDLY SERVING
- ALLEGRO COFFEE & TEA
- ORGANIC ESPRESSO DRINKS